



Homeland  
Security

# Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

## 23 August 2012

### Top Stories

- Low water levels that are restricting shipping traffic, forcing harbor closures, and causing barges to run aground on the Mississippi River are expected to continue into October, federal officials said. – *Associated Press* (See item [15](#))
- A tropical storm pounded the Caribbean, closing schools and government offices, and hampering air and sea travel in Puerto Rico. It is on a track to hit Florida in several days, the same time as the Republican National Convention in Tampa. – *Associated Press* (See item [29](#))
- The Windows version of Crisis, a trojan discovered targeting in Mac OS X systems in July, is capable of infecting VMware virtual machine images, Windows Mobile devices, and removable USB drives, researchers found. – *IDG News Service* (See item [37](#))
- The U.S. government is looking into claims by a cybersecurity researcher that flaws in software for specialized networking equipment from Siemens could enable hackers to attack power plants and other critical systems. – *Reuters* (See item [38](#))
- Fire officials said 50 buildings were destroyed in northern California's Ponderosa Fire, one of about three dozen fires burning in 10 western States. – *NBC News*; *Associated Press*; *Reuters* (See item [44](#))

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## **Fast Jump Menu**

### **PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES**

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

### **SUSTENANCE and HEALTH**

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

### **SERVICE INDUSTRIES**

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

### **FEDERAL and STATE**

- [Government Facilities](#)
  - [Emergency Services](#)
  - [National Monuments and Icons](#)
- 

## **Energy Sector**

1. *August 22, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **DEP orders Antero to regain control of gas well.** Two workers burned in a Harrison County, West Virginia drilling rig fire are out of the hospital, and State environmental regulators ordered Antero Resources to gain full control over their operation near Sycamore, the Associated Press reported August 22. Those two workers and a third man were hurt August 17 when a spark ignited methane gas several hundred feet underground, triggering an hour-long fire on the floor of the natural gas drilling rig at Antero’s Cottrill No. 3 well. The State Department of Environmental Protection issued an order August 20 instructing Antero to cease “any and all operations not necessary as part of the efforts to regain control” of the well. It also instructs Colorado-based Antero to work with property owners to sample water wells used for people, domestic animals, or any other use if they are within 2,000 feet of the well. The testing should, at a minimum, focus on pre-drilled water analyses and levels of dissolved methane. Antero must also submit a proposed monitoring plan for nearby wells and springs, as well as divert any gases it encounters away from personnel, equipment, and the drilling rig floor until the required well casing has been cemented, the order says.  
Source: <http://www.marionettatimes.com/page/content.detail/id/249872/DEP-orders-Antero-to-regain-control-of-gas-well-.html?isap=1&nav=5019>
2. *August 22, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Coal silo collapses at W.Va. power plant.** Mon Power said it is investigating what caused the collapse of a coal silo at the Albright, West Virginia Power Plant just 10 days before it was set to be taken offline, Associated Press reported August 22. No one was injured when the No. 2 silo collapsed. WBOY 12 Clarksburg said it is one of three at the site. Albright is an older, inefficient generating station Ohio-based FirstEnergy is shutting down to comply with new federal air emissions standards. A spokesman said Mon Power engineers are examining why the building failed August 20, and the company is making sure that

coal ash at the site is disposed of properly.

Source: <http://www.wfmj.com/story/19340142/coal-silo-collapses-at-wva-power-plant>

3. *August 21, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Firm OK to resume gas drill procedure in Pa. town.** Pennsylvania environmental officials have given permission to a company to resume a gas drilling procedure that blasts chemical-laden water into the ground in a village where residents say their well water was polluted. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) said August 21 that Houston-based Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. has met its obligations under a 2010 consent agreement and will be permitted to frack seven previously drilled wells in Dimock Township. Dimock residents say Cabot polluted their water supply with methane gas and toxic chemicals. State regulators had previously blamed Cabot for elevated levels of methane in the aquifer and banned it from drilling and fracking in a 9-square-mile area. The DEP has not cleared Cabot to resume drilling any new wells in the area, but says it may begin producing gas from the seven existing wells.

Source: <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2012/08/21/2194514/firm-ok-to-resume-gas-drill-procedure.html>

4. *August 21, Binghamton Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Stray range bullet caused well site leak.** A stray bullet from a target shooter caused a chemical release at a Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania natural gas well site that was initially believed to be an act of vandalism, according to Pennsylvania officials, Binghamton Press reported August 21. A bullet and casings were found August 20 near a broken glass tube connected to a 500-gallon tank of glycol on Cabot Oil & Gas' Grosvenor well site in Dimock Township, according to a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) spokeswoman. A release of about 100 gallons was contained to the site. The DEP turned the investigation over to the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) as an apparent act of vandalism. On August 21, PSP in Gibson said it was determined a stray bullet from nearby target shooting caused the leak. No charges were filed, police said.

Source: <http://www.pressconnects.com/article/20120821/NEWS01/308210057/Stray-range-bullet-caused-well-site-leak?odyssey=nav|head>

For more stories, see items [5](#), [15](#), [38](#), and [41](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Chemical Industry Sector**

See item [4](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector**

5. *August 21, Associated Press; St. Paul Pioneer Press* – (Minnesota) **Monticello nuclear plant back to full power; Prairie Island plant still ramping up.** Seven days after two of Minnesota's three nuclear reactors were shut down, Xcel Energy's nuclear power

plant at Monticello was operating at full power — but Unit 1 of the twin-reactor at Prairie Island's plant was still ramping up, the Associated Press reported August 21. Both shutdowns happened August 14 but were unrelated. The St. Paul Pioneer Press reported that the Monticello plant began operating at full power after workers repaired a leaking gasket on a structure that houses the reactor. Unit 1 at Prairie Island was shut down after workers found exhaust leaks in the plant's emergency diesel generators. The two nuclear power plants supply about 30 percent of electricity in Xcel Energy's Upper Midwest territory.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/9496b83d12df45e1acfeeec83676ce33/MN--Nuclear-Reactors-Minnesota>

6. *August 21, CNN* – (International) **Record radiation found in fish near Fukushima plant.** Radioactive cesium measuring 258 times the amount Japan's government deems safe for consumption was found in fish near the damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, Japan's Kyodo news agency reported August 21. The Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) found 25,800 becquerels per kilogram of radioactive cesium in two greenlings in the sea within 20 kilometers of the plant August 1. Japan's government considers fish with more than 100 becquerels per kilogram unsafe for consumption. TEPCO said it also found limit-exceeding radioactive cesium levels in several other kinds of fish and shellfish during the testing, which happened in the Fukushima area from mid-July to early August, according to NHK. Japan's government has restricted fishing in the Fukushima area since the disaster. However, fishing for two kinds of octopus and one kind of shellfish has happened on a trial basis more than 50 kilometers outside the plant since June. The vast majority of the thousands of fish tested since the disaster are within the government's radioactive cesium limit, according to Japan's fisheries agency.

Source: <http://news.blogs.cnn.com/2012/08/21/record-radiation-found-in-fish-near-fukushima-plant/>

7. *August 20, Power Engineering International* – (International) **Nuclear chief says Belgium reactor could have 'thousands of cracks'.** Belgium's Federal Agency for Nuclear Control (FANC) held an international meeting of nuclear experts as its nuclear safety chief confirmed that there could be thousands of cracks in the reactor vessel of the Doel 3 nuclear reactor near Antwerp, Power Engineering International reported August 20. FANC had stated the facilities were adequate in their report to the European Union at the time and have stood by the validity of the tests. The inspector said the cracks are parallel to the surface of the walls and pose no immediate threat but the large number has left him concerned, Agence France-Presse reported. The cracks, which possibly date back to the reactor's construction some 40 years ago, were discovered using ultra-sound during inspections. The reactor poses no threat to the population, workers, or the surrounding environment, stated FANC. The agency said the cracks had only now been discovered because the ultra-sound inspection had never before been carried out. Dutch company Droogdok Maatschappij, which is no longer in business, built the Doel 3 reactor vessel. It also built another 21 casings for other reactors around the world, one other in Belgium as well as the United States, the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Argentina.

Source:

[http://www.pennenergy.com/index/power/display/3839768390/articles/pennenergy/power/nuclear/2012/august/nuclear-chief\\_says.html](http://www.pennenergy.com/index/power/display/3839768390/articles/pennenergy/power/nuclear/2012/august/nuclear-chief_says.html)

For more stories, see items [9](#) and [38](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

8. *August 21, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **LG Electronics and Sears recall gas dryers for repair due to fire hazard.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with LG Electronics and Sears, August 21 announced a voluntary recall of about 21,000 LG Electronics and Kenmore Elite Gas Dryers. The gas valve in the recalled dryers can fail to shut off properly, continuing to heat the dryer and its contents after the drying cycle is complete. High temperatures inside and on the exterior surface of the dryers can scorch the drum, and burn or damage the dryer contents, posing a risk of burn, fire, and smoke inhalation. LG Electronics and Sears have received 141 consumer complaints about dryers continuing to heat after the drying cycle is complete. There were three reports of minor burns to hands or arms. Burnt or scorched clothing was reported in more than 50 incidents. Consumers should turn off the gas supply and stop using the dryers until repaired. LG brand owners who purchased their dryer at retailers other than Sears should contact LG customer service for a free gas valve replacement. Customers who purchased Kenmore or LG brand dryers from Sears should contact Sears' customer service to schedule a free repair to replace the gas valve.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml12/12251.html>

For another story, see item [38](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

9. *August 22, Global Security Newswire* – (Tennessee) **Government watchdog seeks update on Y-12 plant hazards.** A U.S. government watchdog is expected at an October meeting to examine what steps are being taken to help prevent accidents in aging manufacturing sites at the Y-12 National Security Complex in Tennessee, the Knoxville News Sentinel reported August 22. Possible hazards associated with the plant's atomic infrastructure have for years been a focus of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, which has voiced particular alarm over the nuclear arms site's decades-old "9212" highly enriched uranium processing center. The Presidential administration is seeking to speed up preparation of a replacement Uranium Processing Facility and to begin shifting responsibilities to the successor location close to the end of the decade. The panel hopes to scrutinize the plan's possible implications, as well as Y-12 plant initiatives on reacting to crises. The facility's Beta-2E bomb dismantlement area is another anticipated focus of the meeting, which is set to take place October 2 in

Knoxville.

Source: <http://www.nti.org/gsn/article/watchdog-seeks-update-y-12-plant-hazards/>

For another story, see item [38](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

10. *August 21, KING 5 Seattle* – (Washington) **Four police departments join forces to find ‘Duct Tape Bandit’.** A bank robber that robbed four banks in less than 3 months in Washington prompted the Edmonds, Poulsbo, Redmond, and Stanwood Police Departments to collaborate in seeking out the “Duct Tape Bandit”, KING 5 Seattle reported August 21. The suspect robbed a Whidbey Island Bank in Stanwood May 24; a Key Bank in Poulsbo June 7; a Wells Fargo bank in Edmonds June 20; and a First Citizens Bank in Redmond August 8. In all four robberies, the suspect displayed a handgun and demanded money that he put into a white cloth bag. He assaulted a customer and employee in Stanwood. The suspect had black tape over his nose during the robberies.  
Source: <http://www.king5.com/news/8000-reward-offered-in-Western-Washington-Duct-Tape-Bandit-case-166963866.html>
11. *August 21, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (Puerto Rico; National) **SEC brings charges in Puerto Rico-based Ponzi scheme targeting evangelical Christians and factory workers.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) August 21 charged a Puerto Rico resident and his company with conducting a Ponzi scheme that targeted evangelical Christians and factory workers in Puerto Rico. The SEC alleges that the man and his firm Shadai Yire raised at least \$7 million from as many as 200 investors living primarily in Puerto Rico but also in Florida, New York, and North Carolina. The man actively solicited investors through personal discussions with individuals, marketed the investment opportunity in presentations to evangelical Christian groups and factory workers, and hired sales agents to solicit investors. He falsely assured investors their principal contributions were “100 percent guaranteed” and promised returns up to 50 percent, telling them he would invest their money in commodities. But he never actually invested any money and instead used new contributions to repay earlier investors. He stole \$700,000 for himself. In a parallel action, the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Puerto Rico announced criminal charges against him. According to the SEC’s complaint, the man and Shadai Yire conducted the scheme from at least August 2005 to February 2009. The man and his company have never been registered with the SEC to offer securities.  
Source: <http://sec.gov/news/press/2012/2012-161.htm>
12. *August 21, Associated Press* – (New York) **PA mother, son admit \$14M NY credit union fraud.** A mother and son from Pennsylvania admitted that they ran an elaborate scam to get \$14 million in bogus loans from a New York teacher’s credit union, the Associated Press reported August 21. The U.S. Attorney for the Northern District in New York said that the two pleaded guilty to felony bank fraud. Between July 2009



and February 2011 they created phony documents, forged signatures, and invented fictitious people to get 10 loans from the Broom County Teacher's Federal Credit Union. They used the money to finance a construction business, buy vehicles, remodel a house, and pay other expenses.

Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/AP83b35c06f58d41c58a07792bf2f9ec70.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Transportation Sector**

13. *August 21, Gaithersburg Gazette* – (Maryland) **Police investigate Ride On bus that struck a house in Silver Spring.** A Ride On bus crashed into a house August 20 in Silver Spring, Maryland, injuring several passengers and launching an investigation into the circumstances of the crash, the Gaithersburg Gazette reported August 21. The bus was driving near Avenel Road when it left the roadway and struck a parked car and a home, said a Montgomery County police spokeswoman. After striking an unoccupied taxi in the driveway of the home, the bus drove into the front porch area, she said. Rescue personnel evaluated nine patients on the scene and transported the bus driver and five passengers to hospitals with injuries that were not life-threatening, said a spokeswoman for the Fire and Rescue Service. A building inspector and engineer inspected the house and condemned it because it was structurally unstable.  
Source: <http://www.gazette.net/article/20120820/NEWS/708209985/1022/police-investigate-ride-on-bus-that-struck-a-house-in-silver-spring&template=gazette&template=gazette>
14. *August 21, NY1 News* – (New York) **Crews survey damage caused by Second Avenue subway blast.** The New York City Fire Department (FDNY) said a blast happened in the area of 72nd Street and Second Avenue, NY1 News reported August 21. A Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) spokesman said the explosion was part of a series of daily “controlled” blasts performed by the MTA with the FDNY on scene. The president of MTA Capital Construction said it was unclear how the explosion happened. The MTA said the force of the explosion knocked off the wooden piling and steel plate covering the blast area, which allowed debris to fly out onto the street. The road and crossing were closed to cars and people at the time of the explosion. Buildings department officials said six windows in a nearby building were damaged and a first-floor art gallery in that building was vacated. East 72nd Street was closed for a few hours and later reopened to traffic.  
Source: [http://www.ny1.com/content/top\\_stories/167277/crews-survey-damage-caused-by-second-avenue-subway-blast](http://www.ny1.com/content/top_stories/167277/crews-survey-damage-caused-by-second-avenue-subway-blast)
15. *August 21, Associated Press* – (National) **Corps: Low Miss. River levels to persist into fall.** Low water levels that are restricting shipping traffic, forcing harbor closures, and causing barges to run aground on the economically vital Mississippi River are expected to continue into October, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials said August 21. Meanwhile, more than 100 tow boats and barges remained backed up near Greenville, Mississippi, due to the low river. The U.S. Coast Guard opened an 11-mile stretch of river that had been closed near Greenville, replacing it with a 5-mile zone

where only lighter vessels can pass. Speaking at a meeting of Corps officials, water control managers, and business people in Memphis, a major general said that five harbors — in Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, and Mississippi — were closed, and several others have limited access due to low water levels along the nation's most important inland waterway. The commander of the Corps' Mississippi Valley Division said that the Corps plans to dredge those harbors as soon as it can to allow tow boats and barges to enter and get close enough to docks to unload their materials. Farms and other businesses rely on materials such as grain, feed, and fuel that usually arrive by barge to smaller harbors. The Corps continues to dredge the river's navigation channel, making sure it is deep enough to allow barges to pass safely.

Source: <http://www.ktul.com/story/19334610/corps-low-miss-river-levels-to-persist-into-fall>

16. *August 21, Associated Press* – (Colorado; New York) **Chicago man accused of prompting JetBlue landing.** A Chicago man was accused of groping a pregnant woman and refusing to follow crew instructions on a JetBlue flight, prompting the plane to make an emergency landing in Denver. In federal court August 21, he faced a charge of interfering with the duties of a flight crew and flight attendant. Authorities allege that he was intoxicated and groped the pregnant woman as he waited for the bathroom while on the Los Angeles-bound flight from New York August 19.

Source: <http://www.nbc29.com/story/19332765/chicago-man-accused-of-prompting-jetblue-landing>

For more stories, see items [41](#) and [43](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

17. *August 22, KFVS 12 Cape Girardeau* – (Illinois) **Several fire departments battle fire at grain processing plant.** Several fire departments were called to a fire at a grain elevator in Cairo, Illinois, along the Ohio River August 22. Fire crews said the fire could have sparked when a rotator belt caught fire and the fire spread to the grain below it at the Bunge Oil Processing Plant. The fire spread to about the size of a football field before it was extinguished. At least five fire departments from Cairo, Mounds, Mound City, Wickliffe, and Horseshoe Lake were called to battle the fire.

Source: <http://www.kfvs12.com/story/19340562/several-departments-battle>

18. *August 21, Kentucky Public Radio* – (Kentucky) **Nearly all of Kentucky now officially in drought.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture designated another 68 Kentucky counties, including Jefferson, as drought disaster areas, Kentucky Public



Radio reported August 21. With the new drought declaration, Bell, Harlan, Leslie, and Perry counties are the only Kentucky counties not officially in a drought. A University of Kentucky meteorologist said the drought has been months in the making. “And going into February, all the way into June, the entire state as a whole was below average on precipitation,” he said. “Going into July, most of the state did see improvement especially central and eastern portions, but the west continued to stay dry.” He said there is little relief on the horizon, especially for western Kentucky. Precipitation is still expected to be low in September, and some meteorologists are predicting an El Nino. This would mean a milder — and dryer — winter than usual. Source: <http://www.weku.fm/post/nearly-all-kentucky-now-officially-drought>

19. *August 21, Food Safety News* – (National) **More Salmonella cases linked to chicks and ducklings.** The number of people sickened by Salmonella traced to chicks and ducklings from an Ohio mail order hatchery rose from 123 to 163, according to a report released August 20 by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The illnesses — linked to contact with live baby poultry sold by Mt. Hatchery of Cincinnati — began in March. Three strains of Salmonella — Salmonella Infantis, Salmonella Lille, and Salmonella Newport — have been associated with animals from the hatchery. The 20 new cases reported since CDC’s last update July 12 occurred in 10 States, including Illinois (2), Massachusetts (1), Maryland (2), New York (5), North Carolina (1), Ohio (2), Pennsylvania (2), South Carolina (1), Vermont (1), and West Virginia (3). There have been cases in 26 States. Two outbreak victims — one in Maryland and one in New York — have died, but it is unclear whether their deaths were a result of Salmonella infection or due to other causes. Mt. Healthy Hatchery is the same company that was linked to illnesses from Salmonella Altona and Salmonella Johannesburg in 2011. Those joint outbreaks sickened at least 96 people. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/08/more-salmonella-cases-linked-to-chicks-and-ducklings/#.UDTTiaC6TIY>
20. *August 21, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **JFC International Inc. issues allergy alert on undeclared eggs, soybeans and wheat in JFC Furikake-Seto Fumi 1.7oz.** JFC International Inc. of Los Angeles recalled JFC Furikake-Seto Fumi 1.7 ounce because it contained undeclared egg yolk, soybeans, and wheat, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration reported August 21. The product was distributed nationwide through retail stores and/or on-line Web stores. The recall was initiated after it was discovered the product containing eggs, soybeans, and wheat was distributed in packaging that did not reveal the presence of these ingredients. Subsequent investigation indicated the problem was caused by mislabeling during packaging processes. Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm316538.htm>
21. *August 21, Associated Press* – (International) **Drought policies must be adopted worldwide, UN officials say.** The world urgently must adopt drought-management policies as farmers from Africa to India struggle with lack of rainfall and the United States endures the worst drought it has experienced in decades, top officials with the U.N. weather agency said August 21. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said the U.S. drought and its ripple effects on global food markets show the need for

policies with more water conservation and less consumption. It plans to summon ministers and other high-level officials to a March 2013 meeting in Geneva where it will call for systematic measures toward less consumption and more conservation. “Climate change is projected to increase the frequency, intensity, and duration of droughts, with impacts on many sectors, in particular food, water, health and energy,” the WMO Secretary-General said. The director of WMO’s climate prediction and adaptation branch, said only Australia has a national policy toward drought and the advantage of a policy — rather than a disaster management plan, which some countries have — is that national action is required no matter who is in political power.

Source: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/08/21/drought-policies-2012-us\\_n\\_1816416.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/08/21/drought-policies-2012-us_n_1816416.html)

For another story, see item [15](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Water Sector**

22. *August 21, Associated Press* – (Hawaii) **Kokee fire burns 3K acres, 70 percent contained.** A Kauai, Hawaii wildfire that has burned roughly 3,000 acres is now 70 percent contained, Associated Press reported August 21. Firefighters have been battling high winds and dry conditions since the blaze began late August 16. As the fire approached a high voltage power line August 18, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative officials began a voluntary power outage as a precaution. Power was expected to be fully restored by August 22. The department of water continues to request that Kekaha residents limit water consumption to essential uses until power can be restored to a water storage tank for the area.  
Source: [http://thegardenisland.com/news/state-and-regional/kokee-fire-burns-k-acres-percent-contained/article\\_b3ddb659-98a8-5549-9610-ca49570dfe29.html](http://thegardenisland.com/news/state-and-regional/kokee-fire-burns-k-acres-percent-contained/article_b3ddb659-98a8-5549-9610-ca49570dfe29.html)
23. *August 21, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Report warns of wasting infrastructure, more than 1/3rd MN sewer systems at breaking point.** A new report released August 21 by Minnesota 2020 warns that all over Minnesota, aging sewage systems have reached a breaking point. The Saint Paul-based public policy think tank said one-third of sewer systems are more than 50 years old, with an average life span of a system around 40 years. The author of the report recommends the State use excess bonding money to fund essential projects in Minnesota’s smallest communities, as well as boost the stream of State aid to these towns.  
Source: <http://www.kare11.com/news/article/987814/396/Report-Many-MN-sewage-systems-wasting-away>
24. *August 21, Worcester Telegram & Gazette* – (Massachusetts) **Dudley lifts order to boil water.** The Dudley, Massachusetts municipal water boil alert was lifted August 21, allowing residents to resume normal water use. The water commissioner noted that August 17, when the boil alert was issued, was not the most opportune time for an emergency. Water alert communications will be a topic among town officials going forward. “The way we communicated this to the public was a complete failure,” said

the chairman of the board of selectmen at an August 20 meeting. Residents were told to check government Channel 13 for water alert details but the information was on Channel 12. Also, he said, residents were directed to the town Web site for safety instructions but the address was not given. Lastly, the sheriff's department's Reverse 9-1-1 telephone emergency notification system failed. The day after the boil alert was issued, residents received several automated calls that said nothing more than "this is a test." Selectmen looked to the town's director of emergency management, who said few were aware of a water emergency notification procedure instituted in 2010. "We didn't use it in this incident because we didn't know it existed," he said. Selectmen asked the fire chief to educate town officials on the procedure and asked the commission to mail a water emergency fact sheet to all system users.

Source: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20120821/NEWS/120829900/1116>

25. *August 21, Newport Beach-Corona Del Mar Patch* – (California) **New sewage spill closes part of the Newport Bay.** A section of Newport Bay in Newport Beach, California, closed August 21 after a small sewage spill, county health officials reported. The Orange County Health Care Agency's Ocean Water Protection Program issued a water warning for the bay water areas at the Balboa Yacht Club Docks and on Balboa Island's East Bay Front from Park Avenue to South Bay Front. Health officials warned swimmers and divers to stay out of the water. The closure is the second one in Newport Bay in less than a week.

Source: <http://newportbeach.patch.com/articles/section-of-newport-bay-closed-by-second-sewage-spill>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [21](#), and [38](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

26. *August 21, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Stevens County woman dies of West Nile virus.** The Associated Press reported August 21 that an elderly woman in Stevens County, Minnesota, died of West Nile virus, becoming the first Minnesotan to die of the virus in 2012. The Minnesota Department of Health said she was hospitalized earlier in August. There are now 20 confirmed cases of the mosquito-borne illness in Minnesota. The health department was investigating up to 10 more suspected cases. Source: <http://www.sctimes.com/viewart/20120821/NEWS01/308210014/Stevens-County-woman-dies-West-Nile-virus?odyssey=nav/head>

27. *August 21, KDVR 31 Denver* – (Colorado) **Contaminated colonoscopy equipment causes HIV scare in Alamosa.** More than 60 people may have been exposed to HIV and hepatitis after medical devices used to perform colonoscopies tested positive for bacteria at an Alamosa, Colorado hospital, according to a report. The Pueblo Chieftain reported August 21 that 47 patients had been tested after receiving colonoscopies from the San Luis Valley Regional Medical Center, which has identified 64 patients who may have been exposed. Those individuals received a colonoscopy between July 17 and August 13 and were being asked to get tested for hepatitis B, C, and HIV. The

medical center insists the risk for infection is low. A recently installed automated machine used to clean colonoscopy instruments was being blamed for the contamination. When tested August 13, some devices were found to contain E. coli. Source: <http://kdvr.com/2012/08/21/contaminated-colonoscopy-equipment-causes-hiv-scare-in-alamosa/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Government Facilities Sector**

28. *August 22, Columbia State* – (South Carolina) **Hacker breach might affect 34,000 at USC.** The University of South Carolina (USC) has started notifying 34,000 people with ties to its College of Education that their personal information might have been accessed in a computer intrusion discovered nearly 3 months ago, The Columbia State reported August 22. The intrusion exposed the names, addresses, and Social Security numbers of students, staff, and researchers at the College of Education dating back to 2005, said USC's vice president for information technology. USC is unclear when the breach, which emanated from overseas, occurred. The hacking was discovered by an alert June 6, the school said. The school's security procedures were followed before the breach. The vice president said school officials will examine whether to change when they tell those affected by any future breaches and they will ensure school officials understand how long they should keep records on computer servers.  
Source: <http://www.thestate.com/2012/08/22/2408388/hacker-breach-might-affect-34000.html#.UDUB4qC-a71>
29. *August 22, Associated Press* – (Florida; Puerto Rico) **Tropical Storm Isaac getting better organized.** Leaders across much of the Caribbean closed schools and government offices August 22 and urged people to stay at home as Tropical Storm Isaac swept toward the region, threatening to soon become a hurricane and perhaps eventually to menace Florida. With maximum sustained winds of 45 mph, Isaac was moving west and expected to become a hurricane by August 23, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center. In Puerto Rico, the governor declared a state of emergency and activated the National Guard. He also canceled classes and closed government agencies August 22. The U.S. Coast Guard ordered all commercial vessels bigger than 200 gross tons to leave the port or obtain permission to remain in port. American Eagle has already canceled all its flights, according to the CEO of the island's Air & Seaport Authority. The fast ferry that runs to Guadeloupe and Martinique also will temporarily suspend service, he said. Isaac also poses a possible threat to Florida during the Republican National Convention in Tampa, which is scheduled to take place August 27-30.  
Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/weather/storms/story/2012-08-22/tropical-storm-isaac-caribbean-florida/57206322/1>
30. *August 22, Baton Rouge Advocate* – (Louisiana) **McKinley student accused of carrying gun at school.** A junior at McKinley High School in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was arrested August 21 after administrators found a loaded handgun in his book bag, according to an East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office news release. The gun had

one bullet in the chamber, the release says. A school drug task force deputy responded to the call reporting a student had a gun at school. The administration suspected the student of possible drug use and when officials confronted him, he ran away. The student was arrested and will be booked with carrying of a firearm by a student on school property into East Baton Rouge Parish Juvenile Detention Center, said the release.

Source: <http://theadvocate.com/home/3693144-125/mckinley-student-accused-of-carrying>

31. *August 22, Reuters* – (Washington) **Washington State man arrested over threats to U.S. President.** A Washington State man was arrested by federal agents August 21 after making threats against the U.S. President in emails sent to the FBI, authorities said. The FBI had notified the Secret Service that it had received “alarming” emails from an individual regarding the President, a Secret Service spokesman said. Secret Service agents accompanied Federal Way police officers to the suspect’s home August 21, where they encountered him brandishing a shotgun, the spokesman said. When the suspect was taken into custody, he spoke to officers about using explosive devices. Bomb squad officers searched the man’s home but found no evidence of explosives. The suspect was charged with threatening the President and assault of a federal agent, according to a Federal Way spokeswoman.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/08/22/us-usa-washington-threats-idUSBRE87L05C20120822>

For more stories, see items [9](#) and [43](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Emergency Services Sector**

32. *August 22, Coeur d'Alene Press* – (Idaho) **Lightning rocks PFPD radio tower.** Lightning jolted radio communications for the Post Falls, Idaho police department August 21, causing between \$30,000 and \$50,000 worth of damage, a small fire, and forcing a backup system to be used for 3 hours. “It was a direct hit and it was so hard that it blew lighting from the tower off, destroyed a transformer and backup generator, and started a small fire,” the police chief said. “We lost several pieces of equipment.” He said Post Falls tapped into Kootenai County’s emergency radio system during the outage, so no calls were missed.

Source: [http://www.cdapress.com/news/local\\_news/article\\_ec02d1c5-1fd9-5e57-b24a-6b921b23d0bf.html](http://www.cdapress.com/news/local_news/article_ec02d1c5-1fd9-5e57-b24a-6b921b23d0bf.html)

33. *August 21, Chattanooga Times Free Press* – (Tennessee) **Man arrested in Red Bank, accused of wanting to blow up the police department.** A 24-year-old man was arrested August 21 in Red Bank, Tennessee, and accused of planning to throw Molotov cocktails at the city’s police building. He was charged with a DUI, two counts of possession of a prohibited weapon, and one count of terrorism, according to a news release from Red Bank police chief. Officers saw a vehicle backing into the parking lot of Action Plumbing, the chief said. The business is two buildings down from the Red

Bank Police Department. The man was found in the car and arrested on DUI charges. A search of the car found two “Molotov cocktail” incendiary devices and the man said he was upset with Red Bank police for arresting his girlfriend earlier for a DUI, and wanted to blow something up. Members of the Chattanooga Police Department Explosive Ordinance Disposal Team removed the devices and rendered them harmless, the police chief said.

Source: <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2012/aug/21/man-arrested-red-bank-accused-wanting-blow-police-/?breakingnews>

34. *August 21, Richmond Register* – (Kentucky) **Sheriff’s department makes arrest in Red Lick fire department theft.** The Madison County, Kentucky Sheriff’s Department charged a Berea man in connection with a burglary that occurred earlier the summer of 2012 at the Red Lick Volunteer Fire Department in Berea. He was charged the week of August 20 with receiving stolen property (under \$10,000). He was already incarcerated in the Madison County Detention Center when he was charged. The detective who investigated the burglary said the items that were stolen were “crucial” fire-fighting equipment worth more than \$5,000. He said the equipment has not yet been recovered, so the investigation is ongoing.
- Source: <http://richmondregister.com/localnews/x946185429/Sheriffs-department-makes-arrest-in-Red-Lick-fire-department-theft>

35. *August 20, EMS World* – (Indiana) **Ambulance burns after collision in Indiana.** An ambulance transporting a patient caught fire August 20 following a head-on collision with an SUV in Lafayette, Indiana. As the ambulance approached an intersection a Ford Bronco driven turned into the ambulance’s path, and the two hit head-on, witnesses told police. EMS personnel including the driver, a nurse, and a paramedic managed to get their patient out of the burning ambulance, reported the Lafayette Journal & Courier. The occupants in the ambulance and the driver of the SUV sustained minor injuries, it said. Oxygen bottles in the ambulance exploded during the fire which was extinguished by the Lafayette Fire Department.
- Source: <http://www.emsworld.com/news/10761773/ambulance-burns-after-collision-in-indiana>

For another story, see item [24](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Information Technology Sector**

36. *August 22, The H* – (International) **Adobe Flash Player update patches six critical holes.** Adobe released the second update for its Flash Player software in a week, this time for six critical vulnerabilities. Four of the issues addressed are problems with memory corruption that could lead to remote code execution; additionally, the update fixes an integer overflow vulnerability that could also lead to remote code execution. Another fixed bug is a cross-domain information leak. The problems exist in Flash Player 11.3.300.271 and earlier versions on Windows, Macintosh, and Linux, and in the Android versions 11.1.115.11 (Android 4.0) and 11.1.111.10 (Android 3.x and 2.x)



and earlier. All six vulnerabilities were rated critical by Adobe. The company's security bulletin does not contain any detailed information about the flaws. Users are advised to update their version of Flash as soon as possible.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Adobe-Flash-Player-update-patches-six-critical-holes-1672359.html>

37. *August 21, IDG News Service* – (International) **Crisis malware infects VMware virtual machines, researchers say.** The Windows version of Crisis, a piece of malware discovered in July, is capable of infecting VMware virtual machine images, Windows Mobile devices, and removable USB drives, according to researchers from antivirus vendor Symantec. Crisis is a computer trojan program that targets Mac OS and Windows users. The malware was discovered by antivirus vendor Intego July 24 and can record Skype conversations, capture traffic from instant messaging programs like Adium and Microsoft Messenger for Mac, and track Web sites visited in Firefox or Safari. Crisis is distributed via social engineering attacks that trick users into running a malicious Java applet. The applet identifies the user's OS — Windows or Mac OS X — and executes the corresponding installer.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9230457/Crisis\\_malware\\_infects\\_VMware\\_virtual\\_machines\\_researchers\\_say](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9230457/Crisis_malware_infects_VMware_virtual_machines_researchers_say)

38. *August 21, Reuters* – (International) **U.S. looks into claims of security flaw in Siemens gear.** The U.S. government is looking into claims by a cybersecurity researcher that flaws in software for specialized networking equipment from Siemens could enable hackers to attack power plants and other critical systems. The researcher, an expert in securing industrial control systems, disclosed at a conference in Los Angeles August 17 that he discovered a way to spy on traffic moving through networking equipment manufactured by Siemens' RuggedCom division. DHS said in an alert released August 21 that it asked RuggedCom to confirm the vulnerability the researcher identified to and identify steps to mitigate its impact. The researcher said the discovery of the flaw is disturbing because hackers who can spy on communications of infrastructure operators could gain credentials to access computer systems that control power plants and other critical systems.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/08/22/cybersecurity-siemens-idUSL2E8JL1KH20120822>

39. *August 21, Infosecurity* – (International) **INF/Autorun malware is most prevalent malware in July.** ESET published its statistics on malware in July. The figures are compiled from live data retrieved by ESET systems around the world, and provide an accurate reflection on what malware currently resides on people's computers. Worldwide, INF/Autorun malware and Conficker take first and third position respectively. "Somehow INF/Autorun is still top of the pops, in spite of Microsoft's neutering of the Autorun vector," an ESET senior research fellow said. "And even though the Conficker botnet is essentially dormant, there are enough residual infections for our telemetry to keep picking up their presence," he said. "Often the interesting stories are related to comparatively low and often localized infected populations." He singled out "Dorifel/Quervar in the Netherlands," indicating a new analysis may be

published by ESET soon, and “Stuxnet and its siblings in Iran and the Middle East.”  
Source: <http://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/view/27703/>

40. *August 21, Bloomberg News* – (International) **U.S. authorities seize three mobile app Websites.** U.S. law enforcement officials for the first time seized three Web site domains allegedly used to distribute copyrighted cell phone applications. “Software apps have become an increasingly essential part of our nation’s economy and creative culture, and the criminal division is committed to working with our law enforcement partners to protect the creators of these apps and other forms of intellectual property from those who seek to steal it,” the assistant attorney general for the Justice Department’s Criminal Division said in a statement. The Justice Department (DOJ), FBI, and U.S. attorney’s office in the Northern District of Georgia announced the seizure August 21 as part of a crackdown on infringement of copyrighted cell phone applications. The three Web site domains — [applanet.net](http://applanet.net), [appbucket.net](http://appbucket.net), and [snappzmarket.com](http://snappzmarket.com) — now belong to the government and visitors to those sites will be greeted with banners announcing the seizure. The move is part of an effort by the DOJ’s Task Force on Intellectual Property and comes after FBI agents downloaded thousands of copies of copyrighted applications for wireless devices using Google Inc.’s Android operating system, said the DOJ.  
Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-08-22/u-s-authorities-seize-three-mobile-app-websites.html>

For more stories, see items [28](#) and [41](#)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [sos@us-cert.gov](mailto:sos@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## Communications Sector

41. *August 22, Associated Press* – (International) **All Verizon services restored from Md. derailment.** Verizon said all services disrupted by a train derailment near Baltimore were restored. The company said August 22 that all services were operating normally by 9 p.m. August 21. Land-line services to some customers were disrupted the night of August 20 when 21 cars from a CSX coal train derailed in Ellicott City, Maryland. The wreck killed two people and damaged Verizon fiber optic lines hanging from poles along a train bridge. The telecommunication problems reached all the way to the U.S. Navy base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Lawyers there were unable access information on government computers. That forced a 1-day delay in pretrial hearings for five men charged with orchestrating and aiding the September 11 terrorist attacks.  
Source: <http://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2012/08/22/all-verizon-services-restored-from-md-derailment/>

For more stories, see items [37](#) and [40](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

42. *August 21, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Loose screws focus of Reno air race crash probe.** Federal safety regulators focused on loose screws in the tail of a World War II-era fighter plane modified to race faster than 500 mph as a likely cause of the horrific crash that killed the pilot and 10 others during air races at the National Championship Air Races September 2011 held in Reno, Nevada. The National Transportation Safety Board released nearly 1,000 pages of documents and photographs August 21 while continuing to investigate the official cause of the accident that also injured more than 70 people at Reno Stead Airport. Among other things, the documents point to potential deficiencies in the safety inspection procedures, something race organizers said they would address at 2012's 49th annual National Championship Air Races, scheduled for September 12-16. Analysis of the accident, along with a determination of probable cause, will come later in August when the final report is completed.

Source: <http://www.ktul.com/story/19335050/loose-screws-focus-of-reno-air-race-crash-probe>

43. *August 21, Casper Star-Tribune* – (Wyoming) **Super 8 standoff ends; 1 taken to hospital.** A standoff at the Super 8 motel in Casper, Wyoming, which lasted almost 11 hours August 21, ended with one man being taken to a local hospital with undisclosed injuries, the Casper police chief said. Police negotiated with the man, and possibly others in a room at the motel, to release four men and one female. The chief said “chemical agents” thrown through the room’s windows were used in apprehending the man but that “no lethal rounds of bullets” were fired. Officials responded to a call at the Super 8 and when they arrived, people inside the room told them they had hostages and to back up. At the request of Casper police, local streets around the scene closed down. It was the first day of the school year and a primary election day in Wyoming. Three local schools were locked down due to the standoff. Many schools are polling places, however, the three schools locked down were not. The motel’s guests were moved to another motel and reservations were also transferred to another motel.

Source: [http://trib.com/news/local/casper/super-standoff-ends-taken-to-hospital/article\\_05eef5ba-36aa-5c9c-8731-33a73f267423.html](http://trib.com/news/local/casper/super-standoff-ends-taken-to-hospital/article_05eef5ba-36aa-5c9c-8731-33a73f267423.html)

For more stories, see items [14](#), [25](#), and [37](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

44. *August 22, NBC News; Associated Press; Reuters* – (California; West) **Northern California wildfire destroys 50 buildings.** Fire officials said dozens of buildings were destroyed in northern California’s Ponderosa Fire, the Associated Press reported August 22. A State fire spokesman said fire crews assessing the rural area outside the

community of Manton determined August 21 that 50 buildings had been destroyed. More than 2,100 firefighters were attempting to gain control of the blaze, sparked the weekend of August 18 by lightning strikes. The number of threatened homes was reduced late August 21 to 200, according to the Redding Record Searchlight, while evacuations were still in effect for communities in Manton, Shingletown, and Viola. By late August 21, the fire had burned more than 24,000 acres, the Record Searchlight reported, but was 50 percent contained. It was just one of three dozen dangerous fires currently burning across 10 western States. A fire in the Plumas National Forest was 37 percent contained and threatened about 900 homes. It has engulfed 98 square miles since it began July 29. The evacuated town of Featherville, Idaho, also remained under threat from the Trinity Ridge Fire that has claimed almost 148 square miles in the central part of Idaho, according to the Idaho Statesman. In Washington, dozens of homes fell victim to the Taylor Bridge Wildfire raging near Cle Elum. The fire has charred about 36 square miles of timber, sagebrush, and grass in rural land since it began the week of August 13 at a bridge construction project. In the 2012 wildfire season, fires have consumed more than 6.9 million acres in the United States, according to the National Interagency Fire Center.

Source: <http://usnews.nbcnews.com/news/2012/08/21/13394413-northern-california-wildfire-destroys-50-buildings?lite>

45. *August 22, CNN* – (National) **\$1 billion in pot destroyed in raids on federal lands.** More than \$1 billion worth of marijuana has been uprooted from federal lands during a 2-month operation targeting illegal pot farms, federal authorities announced August 21. Operation Mountain Sweep resulted in the destruction of 578,000 marijuana plants, a U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of California said in a press release. The operation, involving agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration, DHS, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as well as local agencies, targeted growing sites on public lands in seven western States — Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. Fourteen individuals in California were indicted. Authorities have shut down 96 pot farms on public lands in California since the operation began July 1, authorities said. Among those pot farms were sites in national forests and parks, including Death Valley National Park. The operation will continue through the end of August, authorities said.

Source: <http://fox2now.com/2012/08/22/1-billion-in-pot-destroyed-in-raids-on-federal-lands/>

46. *August 21, Associated Press* – (Washington, D.C.) **Washington Monument didn't sink after earthquake.** The Washington Monument did not sink any further into the ground due to the 2011 5.8-magnitude earthquake, government surveyors said in a report released August 21. The upper portion of the monument sustained several large cracks during the quake August 23, 2011 in Washington, D.C., and the structure will likely be closed for repairs until 2014. The repairs were estimated to cost at least \$15 million.

Source: [http://thetandd.com/news/national/washington-monument-didn-t-sink-after-earthquake/article\\_63df545f-527e-5a84-8b04-9174d3af476c.html](http://thetandd.com/news/national/washington-monument-didn-t-sink-after-earthquake/article_63df545f-527e-5a84-8b04-9174d3af476c.html)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **Dams Sector**

47. *August 21, Barre Montpelier Times Argus* – (Vermont) **Removal of dam in Marshfield under way.** Authorities say the Winooski River will soon be cleaner and fish populations will increase after the removal of a dam in Marshfield, Vermont. The dam removal began August 20 and was completed by the afternoon of August 21. Some smaller parts of the project, such as stabilizing a bank upstream of the dam, are expected to take until early September. The 80-foot-long, 12-foot-high dam was used for hydro power when it was built in the early 1960s but had fallen into disrepair and had to be fixed or removed to prevent it from failing and causing damage to properties downstream. According to officials, the dam did not provide any flood control benefits but did cause the river to rise upstream during the spring with winter runoff and blocked fish from traveling the river; it also piled up sediments upstream of the dam. Source: <http://www.timesargus.com/article/20120821/THISJUSTIN/120829991>

[\[Return to top\]](#)



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